

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

- 1) (Currently amended): A method of fabricating a tread plate having alternating stripes incorporated thereon comprising the steps of:
  - a) Marking an edge of the tread plate in predetermined substantially equal increments;
  - b) Positioning an angle indicator adjacent each of said predetermined substantially equal increment markings on said edge of the tread plate;
  - c) Scribing a line along a predetermined angle defined by said angle indicator from each of said predetermined substantially equal increment markings on said edge of the tread plate to the opposite edge of the tread plate so as to define incremental spaces of substantially equal area on the tread plate;
  - d) Placing a covering in every alternating incremental space on the tread plate;
  - e) Filling [the] uncovered areas on the tread plate with a first resinous material;
  - f) Removing said covering from said alternating incremental spaces on the tread plate so as to reveal angularly oriented stripes of said first resinous material on the tread plate;
  - g) Placing a covering on the surface of said angularly oriented stripes of said first resinous material on the tread plate;
  - h) Filling the spaces between said angularly oriented stripes of said first resinous material with a second resinous material; and

- i) Removing said covering from the surface of said angularly oriented stripes of said first resinous material.
- 2) (Original): The method as defined in claim 1 further including, before step a), the step of cutting the tread plate to a predetermined desired length.
- 3) (Original): The method as defined in claim 1 further including, between steps f) and g), the step of curing said first resinous material.
- 4) (Original): The method as defined in claim 1 further including, after step i), the step of curing said second resinous material.
- 5) (Original): The method as defined in claim 4 further including the step of drilling holes through said resinous material and the tread plate after the step of curing said second resinous material.
- 6) (Original): The method as defined in claim 1 wherein said first resinous material has a yellow coloring pigment incorporated therein.
- 7) (Original): The method as defined in claim 1 wherein said second resinous material has a black coloring pigment incorporated therein.
- 8) (Original): The method as defined in claim 1 wherein said first resinous material has aggregate provided therein to form an abrasive surface.
- 9) (Original): The method as defined in claim 1 wherein said second resinous material has aggregate provided therein to form an abrasive surface.

- 10) (New): A tread plate having stripes of abrasive material thereon comprising a base plate and a plurality of stripes of resinous material fixedly attached to said base plate, said plurality of stripes of resinous material being oriented at an angle with respect to the longitudinal axis of said base plate.
- 11) (New): The tread plate as defined in claim 10 wherein said resinous material has an aggregate therein to form an abrasive surface.
- 12) (New): The tread plate as defined in claim 10 wherein the width of said plurality of stripes of resinous material is substantially constant across the surface of said tread plate.
- 13) (New): The tread plate as defined in claim 10 wherein said angle at which said plurality of stripes of resinous material is oriented with respect to said longitudinal axis of said base plate is substantially constant across the surface of said tread plate.
- 14) (New): The tread plate as defined in claim 10 wherein the color of said plurality of stripes of resinous material alternates across the surface of said tread plate.
- 15) (New): The tread plate as defined in claim 14 wherein said color of said plurality of stripes of resinous material is determined by a coloring pigment incorporated therein.
- 16) (New): The tread plate as defined in claim 10 wherein said plurality of stripes of resinous material is comprised of a first set of stripes of resinous material having a first coloring pigment incorporated

therein and a second set of stripes of resinous material having a second coloring pigment incorporated therein, said first set of stripes of resinous material alternating with second set of stripes of resinous material across the surface of said tread plate.

- 17) (New): The tread plate as defined in claim 10 wherein said base plate has oppositely disposed upwardly directed lips along its longitudinally edges.
- 18) (New): The tread plate as defined in claim 17 wherein said plurality of stripes of resinous material is positioned between said oppositely disposed upwardly directed lips on said base plate.
- 19) (New): The tread plate as defined in claim 10 wherein said base plate is formed from metallic material.
- 20) (New): The tread plate as defined in claim 10 wherein said base plate is formed as an extrusion.